

produce available for food, but shall ordinarily be that in force on famine relief works in the district and shall in no case fall short of that prescribed in section 107 by more than one-third. Wages may, when thought advisable, be given in the shape of grain. Gratuitous relief shall ordinarily be given either in grain or in cooked food.

191. *Village inspection and gratuitous relief during the rains.*—Village inspection throughout the period of famine shall be specially careful among these tribes; and gratuitous relief shall be liberally extended during the rains to all who are unable to work or to find employment.

192. *Free use of Government forest produce.*—Full permission shall be given to these people to gather, free of charge, edible products from Government forests, and fees ordinarily levied on forest produce in which they trade shall be reduced or remitted according to circumstances.

CHAPTER XIII.—RELIEF TO ARTISANS

193. *Relief to weavers.*—Distressed weavers shall, whenever possible, be given special relief in their own craft, if their sole occupation is weaving and if they are—

(a) unfitted by the practice of their profession and hereditary habits for hard outdoor labour, or

(b) physically incapable of earning a sufficient livelihood on relief works, or

(c) unable to submit to the labour test on relief works without risk of impairing their manual skill or the delicacy of touch necessary for their own craft.

194. *Organization of and admission to relief.*—Special relief may be organized only where the weavers reside in considerable numbers in the same town or village or in a group of adjacent towns and villages and should preferably take the form of advances at a low rate of interest to any weavers' co-operative society which may have been established in a district.

195. *Municipalities to manage relief.*—In the case of municipalities, the municipal committees should, as far as possible, be induced to finance and manage, under the direct control of the Collector, such special relief of this nature as may be called for, Government granting, if necessary, loans for the purpose at low rate of interest, if any. Otherwise the operations shall be conducted by the Collector with the help of such non-official agency as may be available, or of the committees of weavers' co-operative societies, if any.

196. *Assistance of charitable associations.*—Any famine charitable relief association which may be formed in a district may also be invited to assist by itself organizing special relief on these lines or by purchasing the manufactured cloth.

197. *Mode of administering relief.*—The relief shall be administered, as far as possible, direct to the weavers or to weavers' co-operative societies. The method may be either—

(a) to remunerate the weavers at a fixed rate for a fixed task, the raw material and the manufactured cloth both being the property of the relieving fund; or

(b) to give advances, if necessary, to the weavers for the purchase of the raw material, and to buy the woven cloth from them at the current market rate.

198. *Employment on other work in default of special relief.*—If special relief is not afforded, weavers shall be employed on light work, e.g., carrying earth or digging soft soil, and shall, as far as possible, be formed into special gangs and tasked with due regard to their strength, usual occupation and mode of life.

199. *Relief to other artisans.*—Artisans other than weavers who require relief shall be employed as far as possible in their own trades on the relief works; and, in localities where the members of any particular trade or calling are numerous, preference may be given to works which will provide employment for men of such trade or calling.

CHAPTER XIV.—POLICE

200. *Duties of District Superintendent of Police.*—The duties of the District Superintendent of Police when scarcity is imminent have been laid down in sections 19 (f) and 26. When scarcity or famine conditions have been declared to exist in any district, the District Superintendent of Police shall from time to time apply for such additional officers, superior and subordinate, as may be required for special duty in the distressed area, and for sanction to enlist such extra force as may be necessary to meet all requirements.

201. *Special reports.*—The District Superintendent of Police shall require all police officers in charge of police stations or outposts to submit special reports, from time to time, on the following matters:—

(a) increase in crime which may be attributable to a general rise in prices or scarcity of food;

(b) wandering of needy or starving persons and of criminal tribes or gangs;

(c) migration of distressed people from or into the areas under their charge;

(d) deaths believed to be due to want of food.

The information received shall be communicated by the District Superintendent of Police, with his suggestions, to the Collector.

202. *Arrangements for immediate relief in urgent cases.*—From the permanent advance given to the District Superintendent of Police under section 245, he shall provide the officer in charge of every police station or outpost with a small advance for the purpose of purchasing food in urgent cases. The police officer in charge shall keep an account of his expenditure in Form 34 and recoup it, when necessary, by sending a copy of his account to the District Superintendent of Police, who shall follow the procedure laid down in section 158 (b).

203. *Treatment of destitute wanderers.*—Every officer in charge of a police station or outpost shall be held responsible that no one is left to starve within his charge. He shall pass on destitute persons fit to travel, after feeding them, under sufficient escort to the next post or nearest work or poor-house, and obtain a receipt for each such person, which shall be a voucher for the expenditure incurred. Such persons shall not be allowed to continue their wanderings after having been relieved. Starving persons unfit to travel shall, after being fed, be similarly handed over to the nearest village officer. Each police station and outpost shall also be provided with a supply of fever and cholera medicines to be obtained on indent from the Civil Surgeon.

204. *Disposal of corpses.*—The District Superintendent of Police shall see that corpses found by the roadside are properly buried or burnt by the village authorities; and he shall report the extent of such mortality to the Collector.